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Contact: Rep. Don Vruwink

608-266-3790

Vruwink Encourages Constituents to Serve on Study Committee

MADISON – State Rep. Don Vruwink (D-Milton) is encouraging his constituents to consider serving on one of the legislature's study committees.

During the summer and fall of each even-numbered year, the legislature selects a variety of subjects to be the focus of close analysis and discussion. Each subject makes up an individual study committee that includes legislators and public members. These citizens can range anywhere from field experts to those interested in learning more about the topic.

The goal of these committees is to study the issue at hand and recommend legislative solutions. The sessions will meet three to six times for a full day of discussion. Participants will not be paid for membership, but reimbursement for certain travel expenses is available.

When the study sessions are complete, each committee will provide recommendations for legislation in the form of bill drafts to be approved and introduced in the next legislative session, which begins in January.

These study sessions allow for direct public involvement in the creation of public policies. Not only is this a unique opportunity for legislators to hear from constituents, but it is also an opportunity for citizens to see and impact the bill-making process.

There are 10 study committees this year. The topics are: alcohol beverage enforcement; bail and conditions of pretrial release; child placement and support; direct primary care; minor guardianships; property tax assessment practices; identification and management of dyslexia; investment and use of the school trust funds; use of police body cameras; and a special committee on state-tribal relations.

To apply to serve on a study committee, send a resume and statement expressing interest and/or expertise to Rep.Vruwink@legis.wisconsin.gov or P.O. Box 8953 Madison, WI 53708

"This is a great opportunity to allow you to be heard directly by policy makers. With your help, we can come up with viable solutions to ongoing issues in the state," said Rep. Vruwink.